



**FAST  Corridor**

## Freight Action Strategy for the Everett-Seattle-Tacoma Corridor

February 2003

# FAST Corridor

**FAST Phase I is a \$500 million investment to:**

- Move the nation's freight through the major NW trade corridor
- Fix freight & general traffic bottlenecks
- Increase competitiveness of Puget Sound ports
- Improve safety at rail/roadway crossings
- Create and maintain jobs

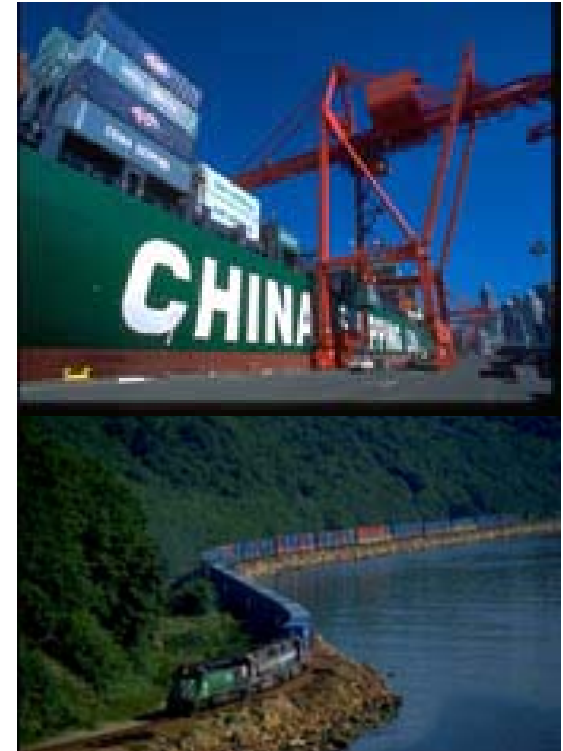


**Puget Sound Region of Washington State**

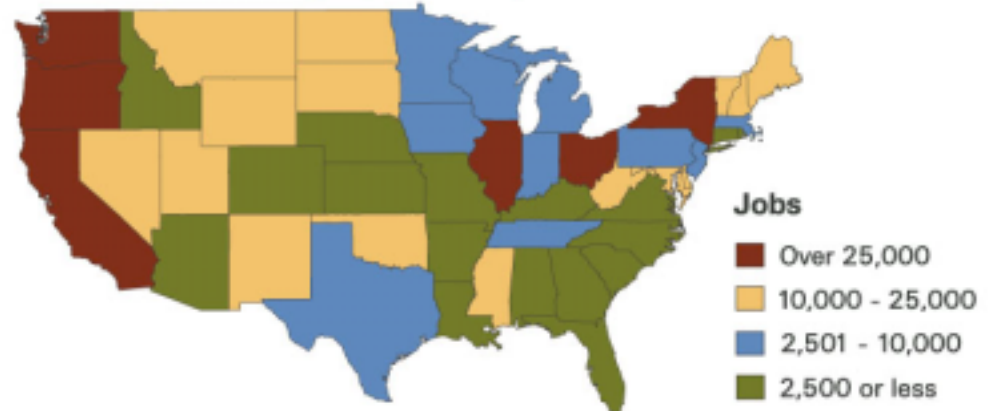


## Importance to the nation's economy

- Ports of Seattle/Tacoma are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest marine container complex in the U.S. with Asia being the largest trading partner.
- Asia is expected to comprise 45% of the world population by 2015, and container traffic is expected to double through West Coast ports in the next 20 years
- 70% of imports through the region's ports head inland to U.S. destinations
- FAST is expanding trade and jobs →



**FAST Corridor: Employment Impact**



# FAST Corridor

## **FAST focuses on Puget Sound freight corridors linking:**

- Three deep-water international ports
- The major Pacific NW rail corridor for freight and passengers
- Sea-Tac Airport/Boeing Field
- Roads to and from port terminals and other freight facilities (intermodal connectors)

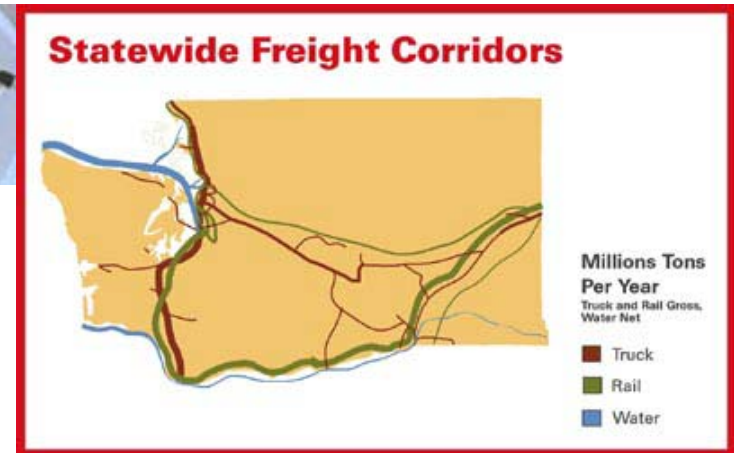






## Importance to Washington State:

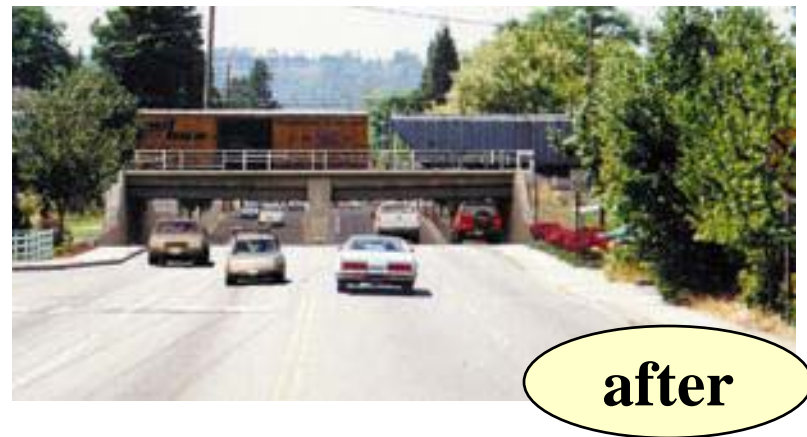
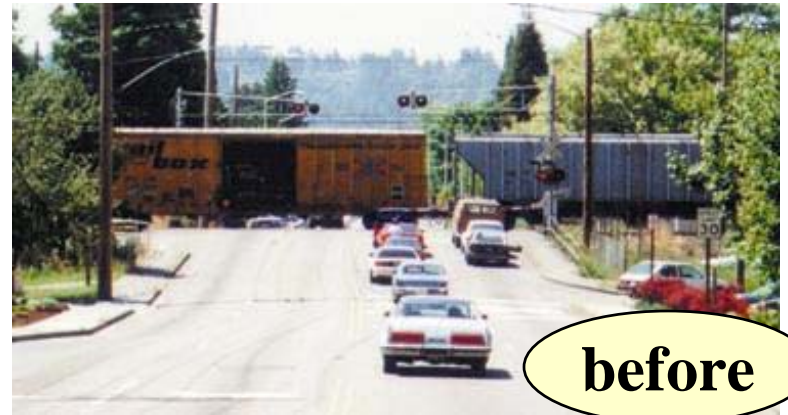
- One-third of state agricultural production is exported, e.g. hay, cherries, apples, beef, pork from Eastern Washington
- One out of three jobs in the state relies on international trade
- FAST eliminates bottlenecks; streamlines traffic and improves safety at rail yards, ports and roadways
- FAST mitigates the impact of expanding freight and passenger rail traffic on communities





## **FAST Partnership Provides Unique Role**

- **FAST projects address system gaps where no single entity “owns” the problem. The 20 FAST partners combine funds and prioritize the many local projects to fill these gaps (e.g. grade separation shown right.)**
- **FAST has leveraged federal funds: providing \$500 million worth of projects in return for a total federal investment of \$150 million.**





## **FAST Partners *Dig In...***

**Jointly sponsored by the  
Washington State Department of  
Transportation and the Puget  
Sound Regional Council**

**FAST partners include:**

- **Federal – Federal government**
- **State – WSDOT, Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board, Transportation Improvement Board**
- **Local – 12 cities, three counties (King, Pierce, Snohomish), three ports (Everett, Seattle, Tacoma)**
- **Business – Burlington Northern/Santa Fe, Union Pacific, Washington State Trucking Association and other local businesses**







## FAST partners deliver:

Ten of 15 projects in Phase I are complete or nearly complete:

- Complete ●
- Under construction →

The rest are scheduled for implementation in 2003-06, depending on funding.







## Port of Tacoma Rd. Project

- Removed a key choke point and improved truck access to the port
- Improved freight flow & integration of passenger-rail service
- Enhanced security: overpass is a primary route for military access to the port
- Integrates Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to streamline freight movement



## Before/After





**Underway/After**

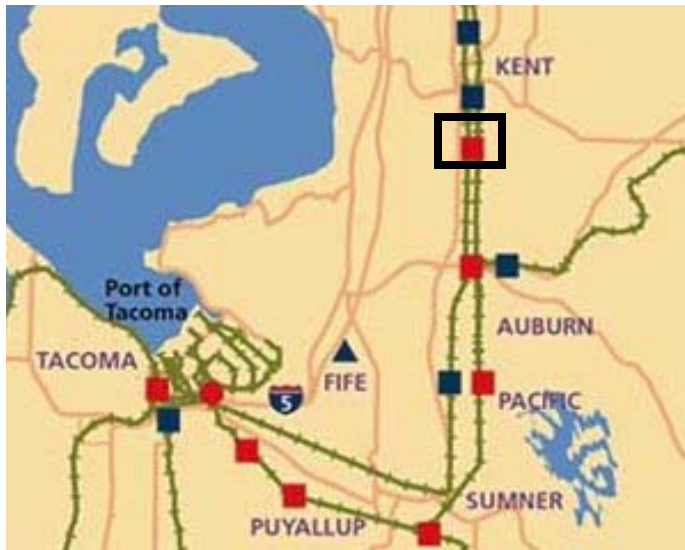


### **3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW -- Auburn**

- Alleviated traffic congestion
- Improved safety; increased train speeds & reduced truck delays
- Improved connections to SR 18
- Provides convenient access to a commuter rail & transit hub







## S 277<sup>th</sup> Street – Kent/Auburn

- Improved safety; reduced delays for trains, trucks and traffic
- Includes the second largest concentration of truck distribution centers on the West Coast
- Increased capacity of regional roads – from two to four lanes
- Integrates Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

## Before/After





## California St. -- Everett

- Accommodates 24/7 access to the port
- Reduces railway and roadway conflicts and delays
- Improves safety and freight rail capacity
- Eliminated three at-grade crossings



**Underway/Almost After**

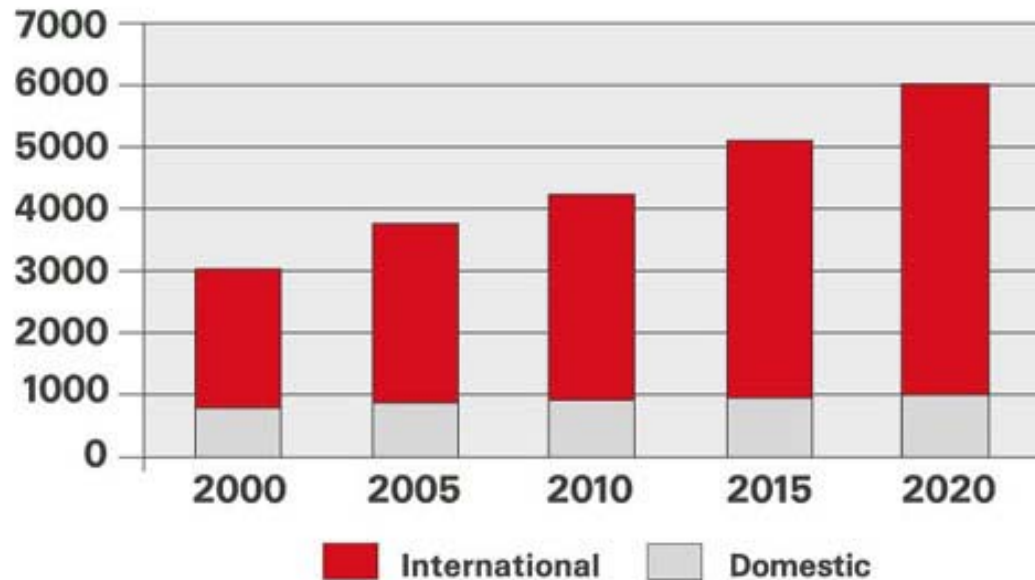






A global economy will require more container shipping, providing the opportunity for increased trade revenues for the nation and state. FAST projects are improving the infrastructure to handle the growth safely and efficiently.

### **Puget Sound Container Forecast**



Measured in 1,000's of 20' - equivalent unit containers full & empty

*\*The Columbus Group, BST Associates*



## Planning for growth, example: SR 519/Royal Brougham

- Phase 1 construction of overpass over the railroad tracks – BNSF, AmTrak, Sound Transit – will separate rail/roadway traffic & connect to eastbound I-90
- When complete, this multi-phase project will improve access to the port, Seattle and industrial areas -- removing at-grade conflicts; improving safety & reducing delays for freight, commuters, pedestrians & ferry traffic



**May 2002/Sept. 2002**





**Building on the success of FAST Phase I, the FAST Partners have identified 10 additional top priority projects in FAST Phase II.**

**Lincoln Avenue – Port of Tacoma**

**S. 228th – City of Kent**

**70<sup>th</sup> Avenue – City of Fife**

**Duwamish ITS Project – City of Seattle**

**Regional ITS Improvements – WSDOT**

**SR 9 Widening – WSDOT**

**M Street – City of Auburn**

**8<sup>th</sup> Street/UP – Pierce County**

**Lander Street – City of Seattle**

**Willis Street – City of Kent**

List includes project and lead agency. Projects are shown in blue on the map.





## **FAST has proven *it delivers...***

**...10 out of 15 projects during Phase I**

**...A partnership to leverage federal funds – state, local and rail provided over \$3 for every \$1 of federal funds**

**...Streamlined freight, improved safety, more jobs and trade**

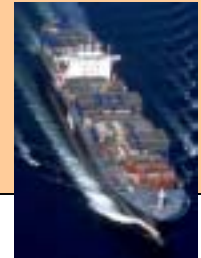
**...Partnerships that work**



**Puget Sound freight movement and safety improvements are vital to the national and state economy.**

**Congressional and other federal support has been critical to FAST's success.**

**FAST Phase II is ready to go**



***Keep the FAST momentum going.***

**More information: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/mobility/fast](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/mobility/fast)**

